

Message Text

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64

ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PASS-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTO 31040

DEPT PASS ALL ARA POSTS

FOR: DEPT: FOR S/PRS, NSC FOR SCOWCROFT AND WHITEHOUSE FOR MR.NESSEN
RUEHFO FOR IPS/PL

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (JACK FORD)

SUBJECT: REMARKS JACK FORD ARRIVAL AIRPORT MEXICO CITY

Q. DO YOU BRING A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GERALD FORD TO
THE NEXT PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO?

A. NO, I BRING A MESSAGE NOT ONLY FROM MY FATHER BUT THE
PEOPLE OF AMERICA IN THE SENSE THAT THE MEXICAN PEOPLE
AND THE COUNTRY OF MEXICO AS WELL AS THE GOVERNMENT IS ONE
OF THE UNITED STATES' MOST IMPORTANT AND VALUED FRIENDS
AND ALLIES IN THE WORLD. BESIDES PERSONAL WELL WISHES
AND WARM REGARDS TO THE PRESIDENT-ELECT FROM MY FATHER,
WHO LOOKS FORWARD TO HELPING IN ANY WAY WITH THE RELATIONS
BETWEEN OUR PEOPLE, OUR COUNTRIES NOT ONLY IN THE NEXT
MONTHS BUT IN THE NEXT YEARS.

Q. I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU A QUESTION AS THE SON OF PRESIDENT FORD
WHICH HAVE BEEN THE BASIC ACTIVITIES YOU HAVE DEVELOPED?

A. THE BASIC ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST YEAR?

YES

A. PRIMARILY WORKING FOR MY FATHER, SPENDING TIME HELPING WITH HIS
CAMPAIGN AND HELPING, I THINK, IN COMMUNICATING IDEAS OF A MAN WHO
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HELD THE MOST IMPORTANT OFFICE IN OUR COUNTRY TO THE PEOPLE OF THE

COUNTRY AS WELL. AS THE PRESIDENT-ELECT HERE IN MEXICO I'M SURE WILL FIND OUT, THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF HIS OFFICE THE DEMANDS ON HIS TIME, WILL MAKE IT HARDER AND HARDER FOR HIM TO COMMUNICATE PERSONALLY AS MUCH AS HE WOULD LIKE AND IN MY FATHER'S CASE HE CAME TO RELY ON OUR FAMILY A GREAT DEAL AND WITH THE FINE FAMILY OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT, ESPECIALLY HIS SON WHO IS HERE TODAY, I'M SURE THAT THEY WILL BE A GREAT HELP IN CONTRIBUTING TO MAINTAIN THAT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN A LEADER OF THE COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE OF THAT COUNTRY

Q. YOU, AS THE SON OF GERALD FORD, WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF HIS MANAGEMENT OF THE DESTINY OF THE UNITED STATES?

A. I THINK THE JOB THAT MY FATHER DID IN TAKING MY COUNTRY FROM ONE OF ITS MOST DARKEST HOURS, CERTAINLY THE MOST DARKEST I HOPE TO EVER EXPERIENCE, TO A RETURN OF NORMALCY, FREEDOM AND PROGRESS FOR OUR COUNTRY THAT HAS ALLOWED OUR COUNTRY HOPEFULLY TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE AND NOT DWELL ON THE PAST. WE FEEL THAT THIS IS THE GREATEST CONTRIBUTION THAT HE HAS MADE IN HIS TERM OF OFFICE.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER?
(MUCH LAUGHTER)

A. I THINK THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE A MAN WHO WILL MAKE A GREAT PRESIDENT AND WE, IN OUR FAMILY AND MY FATHER IN PARTICULAR, WILL DO EVERYTHING TO MAKE HIS TRANSITION TO OFFICE AS SMOOTH AND AS EFFECTIVE AND AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE.

Q. WE WILL TRY TO RECIPROCATATE FOR ALL THE ATTENTION WE RECEIVED, FOR THE GRACIOUSNESS WE RECEIVED DURING OUR STAY IN WASHINGTON, SO WE HOPE THAT DURING YOUR STAY HERE IN MEXICO WE WILL TRY TO GIVE YOU BACK SOMETHING OF WHAT YOU GAVE US.

Q. WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?

A. I HAVEN'T REALLY MADE ANY PLANS YET. I AM LOOKING AT A NUMBER OF OPPORTUNITIES AND WHAT NOT. I LOOK FORWARD TO GOING BACK TO THE WESTERN PART OF THE UNITED STATES WHICH I CONSIDER MY HOME, DOING A LITTLE BIT OF FISHING, A LITTLE BIT OF SKIING REFLECTING MORE ON MY THOUGHTS IMMEDIATELY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Q. MR. FORD HAVE YOU ANY MESSAGE FOR THE LICENCIADO JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO FROM YOUR FATHER?

A. OTHER THAN THE ONE I EXPRESSED EARLIER ABOUT DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE, NOT ONLY IN HIS LAST DAYS OF OFFICE BUT IN THE FUTURE YEARS AS A FORMER PRESIDENT AND A PRIVATE CITIZEN, DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO HELP CONTINUE OUR COUNTRIES' RELATIONSHIPS OF FRIENDSHIP, WARMTH AND UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION.

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Q. THE LAST YEAR WHAT WAS YOUR WORK WITH YOUR FATHER?

A. IN THE WORKING WITH MY FATHER, I TRIED TO ACT AS A COMMUNICATOR OF WHAT WAS ON PEOPLE'S MINDS. HE COULDN'T TRAVEL AS MUCH AS I COULD, HE COULDN'T GET OUT IN RELAX SITUATIONS AS MUCH AS I COULD, AS WELL AS CAMPAIGNING AND TRYING TO CARRY HIS MESSAGE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES NOW?

A. WELL--IT'S HARD TO SPEAK FOR A LARGE GROUP
AS THAT BUT I THINK THAT THERE IS A NEW WAVE OF HOPE
AND ASPIRATION ON THE PART OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE THAT IS
ADDING NEW VIGOR TO OUR COUNTRY AND I LOOK FORWARD TO
THAT AND HELPING IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.

Q. LAST QUESTION--WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE
PRESIDENT FORD--THE PRESIDENT CARTER, EXCUSE ME?

A. I THINK PRESIDENT CARTER-PRESIDENT-ELECT
CARTER IS A VERY FINE MAN. WE HAVE NOTHING BUT THE
GREATEST RESPECT FOR HIM AS A MAN. WE LOOK FOWARD
TO HELPING IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE WITH HIS DUTIES AS
HE ASSUMES THEM AS PRESIDENT BOTH AS A FAMILY AND
MY FATHER IN PARTICULAR.
KISSINGER

NOTE BY OCT: PASSED ALL ARA POSTS.

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